



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

November 30, 2004

Mr. Samuel E. Bassett
Attorney at Law
1100 Guadalupe
Austin, Texas 78701

Via Facsimile (512) 479-8315 and Regular Mail

Re: April 6, 2004 complaint by Cory Shields to the Williamson County District Attorney's Office alleging violations of the Open Meetings Act by members of the Cedar Park City Council

Dear Mr. Bassett:

This letter sets out the agreement between the Cedar Park City Council members, each of whom you represent in his or her individual capacity (hereafter, "your clients") and the Office of the Attorney General acting through the Williamson County District Attorney in the abovementioned complaint.

The Office of the Attorney General agrees to defer for a period of 180 days presentment of evidence to a Williamson County grand jury seeking indictments against your clients involved in alleged Open Meetings Act violations, chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code as complained of by Cory Shields, if each condition as set out below is completed by each of your clients.

- 1) Make a public admission of a violation of the Open Meetings Act as set out in **Exhibit "A"** attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- 2) Upon request, cooperate fully with the attorney general's office by participating in a debriefing surrounding the facts and events which led to the departure of the former Cedar Park City Manager, Robert Powers.
- 3) Participate in any legislative action during the upcoming session to promote legislation requiring mandatory education for elected public officials regarding the Open Meetings Act, including but not limited to providing testimony to the legislature, if called upon.
- 4) Attend the Texas Open Government Conference in December of 2004 to fulfill mandatory education regarding the Open Meetings Act.

If the conditions as set above are not met during the 180 day deferment period, the Office of the Attorney General will proceed with seeking criminal charges against your clients; however, it is the parties' agreement that any admissions or statements made as a result of this agreement will

not be used against your clients in any future proceedings.

This agreement will be binding by parties' signatures below, and the date of your signature shall begin the deferment period.

Sincerely,

Brandy Byrd Hallford
Assistant District Attorney by Appointment,
Williamson County, Texas
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Mr. John Bradley
Williamson County District Attorney
Via Facsimile (512) 943-1255

AGREED:

Samuel E. Bassett
Attorney for Cedar Park City Council members,
in their individual capacities

Date

Brandy Byrd Hallford
Assistant District Attorney by Appointment,
Williamson County, Texas
Assistant Attorney General

Date